

MARVEL

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LGY#682

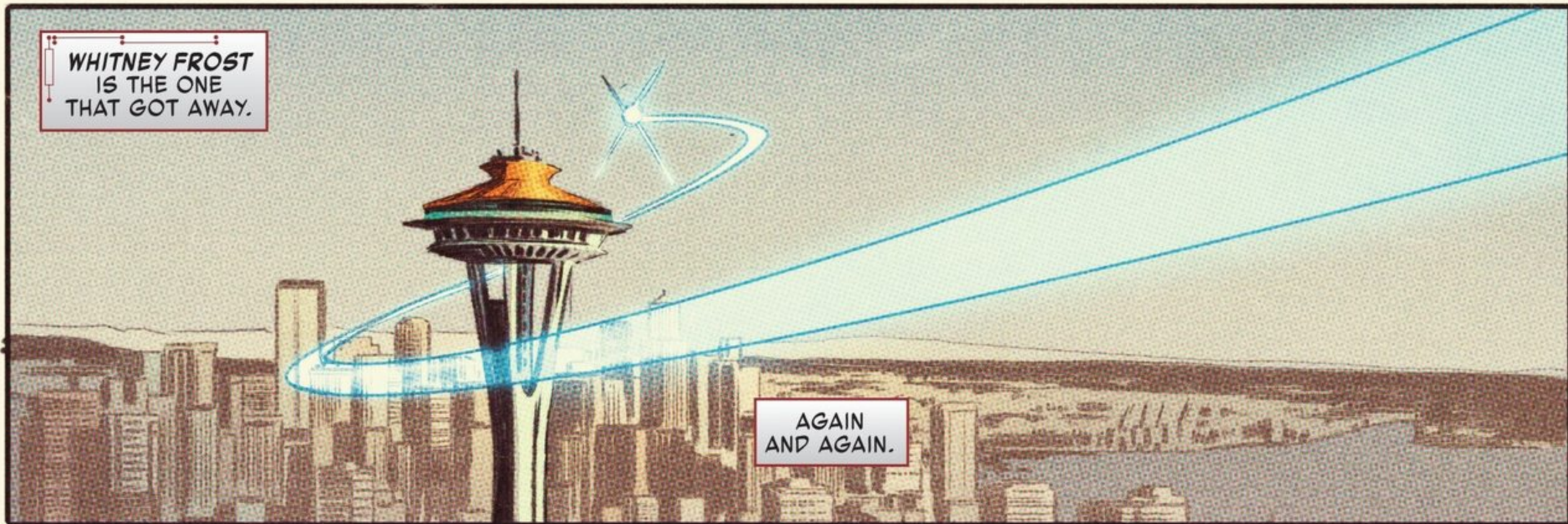
WILLIAMSON
CARNERO
WOODARD

IRON MAN



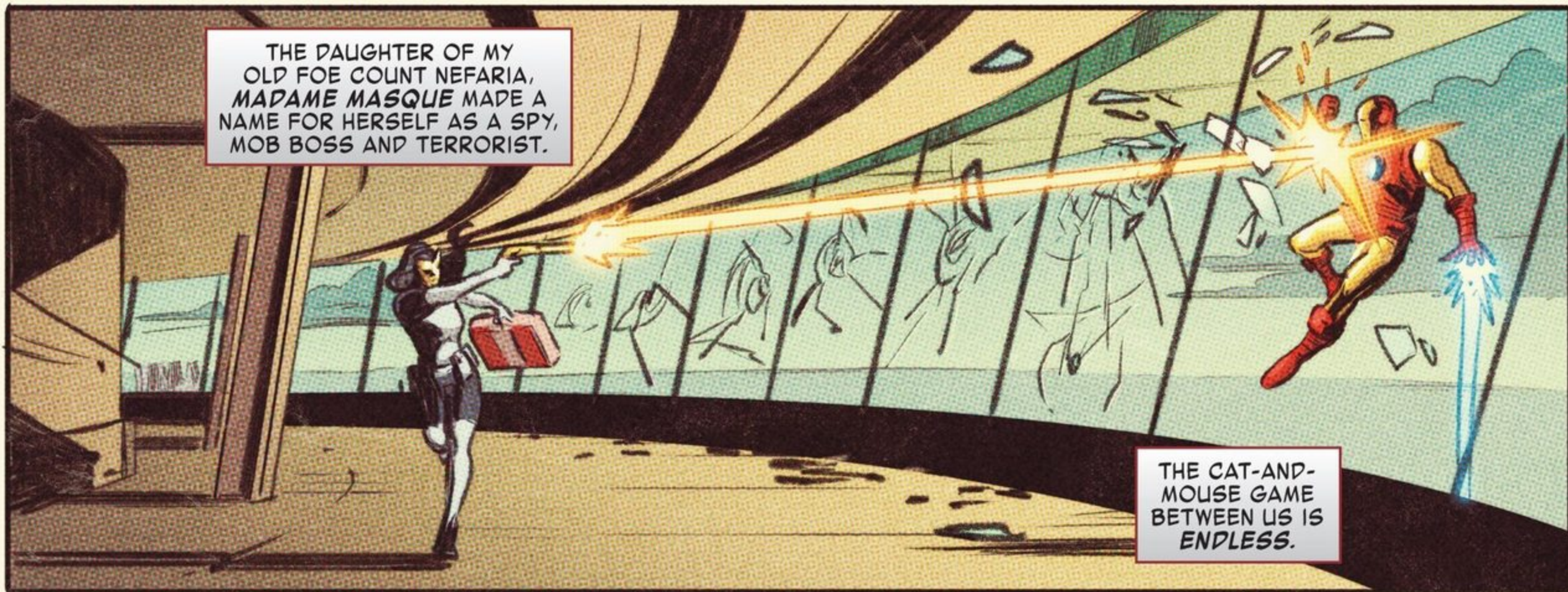
RATED T+

*Sam
Peters*



WHITNEY FROST
IS THE ONE
THAT GOT AWAY.

AGAIN
AND AGAIN.



THE DAUGHTER OF MY
OLD FOE COUNT NEFARIA,
MADAME MASQUE MADE A
NAME FOR HERSELF AS A SPY,
MOB BOSS AND TERRORIST.

THE CAT-AND-
MOUSE GAME
BETWEEN US IS
ENDLESS.



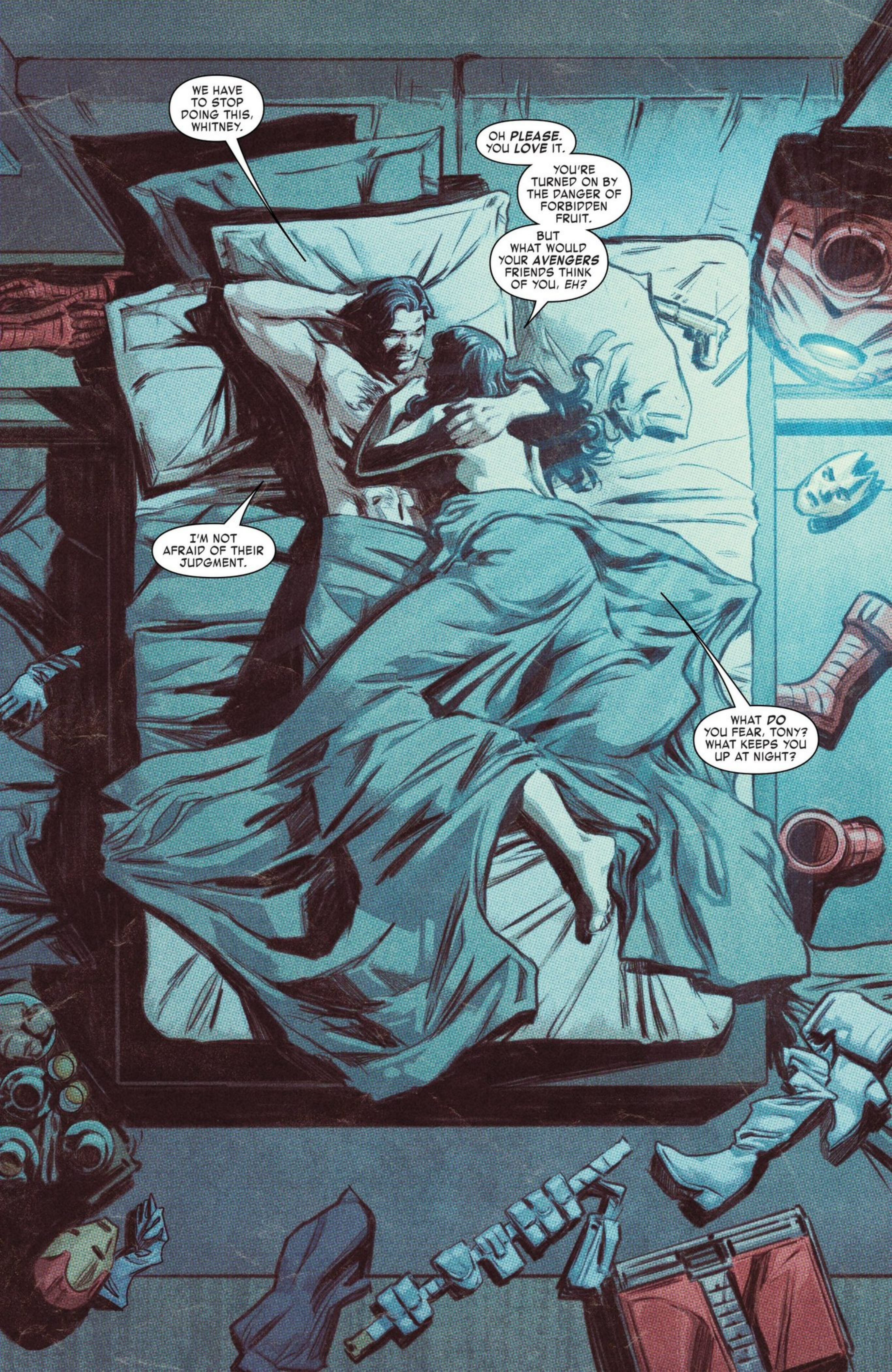
A FEW YEARS AGO,
SHE STOLE ONE OF MY
ARMOR SUITCASES.

SHE INTENDED TO SELL IT
TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.
AT FIRST, I THOUGHT MAYBE
SHE WAS JUST TRYING TO
GET MY ATTENTION, BUT NO.
IT WAS A REAL DEAL.



**I
HATE
YOU!**

AND IT LED TO A
FIGHT THAT WENT
EXACTLY AS THEY
ALWAYS DO...

A comic book panel showing Tony Stark and Whitney Foster in bed. Tony is on the left, shirtless, looking at Whitney. Whitney is on the right, wearing a blue dress, looking back at him. They are in a room with a window showing a cityscape. A handgun is on the nightstand. A red bag is on the floor. A small figure is on the floor. A small figure is on the floor.

WE HAVE
TO STOP
DOING THIS,
WHITNEY.

OH PLEASE.
YOU LOVE IT.

YOU'RE
TURNED ON BY
THE DANGER OF
FORBIDDEN
FRUIT.

BUT
WHAT WOULD
YOUR AVENGERS
FRIENDS THINK
OF YOU, EH?

I'M NOT
AFRAID OF THEIR
JUDGMENT.

WHAT DO
YOU FEAR, TONY?
WHAT KEEPS YOU
UP AT NIGHT?



OBVIOUSLY,
I WORRY ABOUT
PEOPLE STEALING
MY ARMOR...

...BUT HONESTLY...
MY REAL NIGHTMARE IS ABOUT
ANOTHER **TONY STARK** OUT THERE.



THE IDEA THAT
SOMEONE COULD BE
AS SMART AS YOU
SCARES YOU?

YOUR EGO
IS **SO FRAGILE**,
TONY.



NO, I
MEAN...

THIS IS MY BIGGEST
SECRET. I DIDN'T JUST
BUILD THE ARMOR IN
THAT CAVE...I BUILT
ME.

I CHANGED.
I BECAME SOMEONE
ELSE. THE TRAUMA
OF THAT EXPERIENCE
FORGED **ME** IN
THAT FIRE.



AND I WORRY THAT SOMEONE
LIKE ME COULD GO THROUGH
THE SAME THING AND, INSTEAD OF
CHOOSING TO BE A HERO, THEY
WOULD BE SELFISH. MEAN.

AND THEN I
WORRY ABOUT
WHAT **WEAPON** THEY
WOULD BUILD TO
ESCAPE.

SO, ACTUALLY,
I CREATED A
PLAN IN CASE THAT
WERE TO EVER
HAPPEN--



DON'T YOU
EVER STOP
OVERTHINKING
EVERYTHING,
TONY?



NEVER.



AFTER A LIFE-THREATENING INJURY, CAUSED BY HIS OWN COMPANY'S WEAPONS, LEFT TONY STARK STRANDED IN A CAVE CLINGING TO LIFE, HE DID WHAT ONLY FEW COULD DO: HE DIDN'T JUST SURVIVE, HE THRIVED. DONNING A GOLDEN SUIT OF ARMOR, TONY STARK MADE IT HIS MISSION TO KEEP THIS WORLD--THIS UNIVERSE--SAFE.

TONY STARK IS MANY THINGS: GENIUS BILLIONAIRE PLAYBOY. FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE AVENGERS. HERO TO MILLIONS. BUT NO MATTER WHAT CHANGES IN HIS LIFE, TONY STARK WILL ALWAYS BE...

IRON MAN

//PREVIOUSLY//

A new nightmare has dawned.

MADAME MASQUE is putting all the power of A.I.M. behind one singular idea: creating the next TONY STARK. Masque has captured a group of some of the smartest up-and-coming scientists in the world today, in the hope that one of them--when put under the pressures of what Tony dealt with in the cave when Iron Man was born--would produce a new, controllable Tony Stark.

While Tony begins his search for the kidnapped scientists, a group of what appear to be some of his closest friends... and Norman Osborn...are gathering to take Tony down...

"UNDER PRESSURE"

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IRON MAN CREATED BY:
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TODAY.
THE LATVERIAN EMBASSY
IN NEW YORK CITY.

ARE YOU
TELLING ME THE
WORLD IS IN DANGER
BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T
KEEP IT IN YOUR
PANTS?

OH LIKE YOU'VE
NEVER HAD A RUN-IN
WITH A FEMME FATALE?
YOU'RE NOT THE BOY
SCOUT ALL THE
TIME, STEVE.

EXCUSE
ME! DO YOU
MIND?!

AFTER
DOOM'S DEFEAT*,
MY DREADSQUIRES
AND I DEMAND AN
AUDIENCE WITH
YOUR LEADERS.

*SEE ONE WORLD
UNDER DOOM! --DK

KRAKA-ZAP!

AS TRUE-
BORN LATVERIANS,
OUR HOME COUNTRY
SHOULD BE
OURS.

TONY, MAYBE
WE NEED TO PUT A
PIN IN THIS
CONVERSATION.

I DON'T
HAVE TIME.
I NEED TO KNOW
WHERE A.I.M.
IS NOW.

THEY SEEM VERY
SCATTERED. AIMLESS...
NO PUN INTENDED.

I CAN GIVE
YOU A LIST OF A.I.M.'S
BASES, BUT I DOUBT IT'S
ANYTHING YOU DON'T
ALREADY KNOW.

BEEP BEEP BEEP--
INCOMING CALL.

HOLD ON,
THAT'S MY
PRIVATE
LINE.

HELLO,
THIS IS
TONY.





"...MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T GET US INTO NEW TROUBLE..."

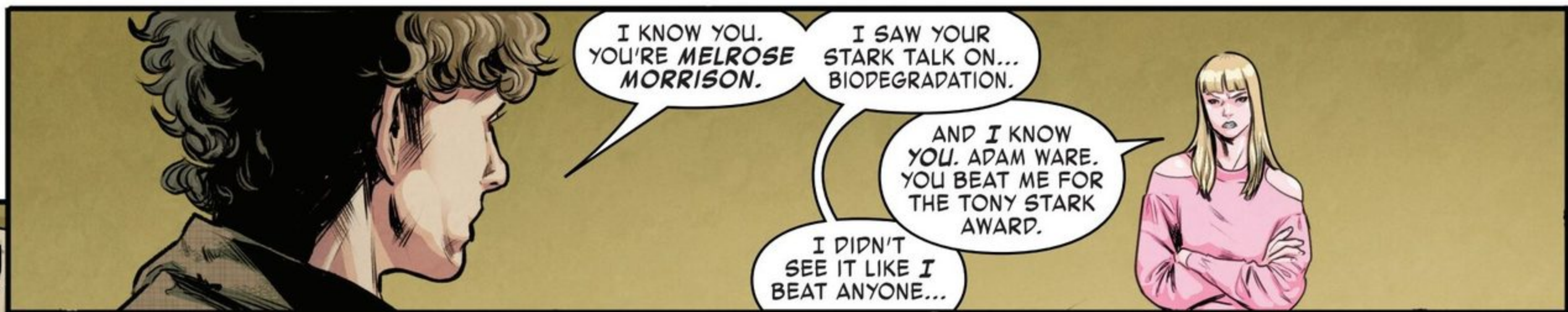
MOVE IT, GENIUS.

CAN YOU PLEASE TELL ME--?

SHUT UP.



OH JOY... A NEW KID.



I KNOW YOU. YOU'RE MELROSE MORRISON.

I SAW YOUR STARK TALK ON... BIODEGRADATION.

AND I KNOW YOU. ADAM WARE. YOU BEAT ME FOR THE TONY STARK AWARD.

I DIDN'T SEE IT LIKE I BEAT ANYONE...



YOU BEAT EVERYONE HERE.

WE'RE ALL FROM DIFFERENT FIELDS.

HUMAN SUBCONSCIOUSNESS.

SUSTAINABILITY.

METAPHYSICS.

A.I.

SPACE TRAVEL.

CLIMATE CHANGE.

HYDROENGINEERING.

NEW-WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY.

A.I.M. MUST WANT US TO WORK TOGETHER TO...BUILD A WEAPON OF SOME KIND.



BUT I'M JUST A TEACHER...

DON'T MAKE FRIENDS.



IT WON'T
END WELL.

APPARENTLY,
YOU'RE THE WORLD'S
GREATEST MINDS.
THE NEXT GENERATION.
ALL HANDPICKED BY
TONY STARK.

AS IF
THAT MEANS
SOMETHING.

BUT A.I.M.
HAS TASKED US
WITH SEEING HOW
CREATIVE YOU WILL
BECOME.

IF WE
GIVE YOU
A LITTLE
PUSH.

WHAT THE
HELL DOES
THAT MEAN?

HOLD ON.
YOU DON'T
WANT TO--

WHATEVER.
I KNOW THIS GUY.
NORBERT EBERSOL.
THE *FIXER*. MORE
LIKE THE
FAILURE.



HM. MISTER
CHUCK ARMSTRONG.
YOU'VE DESIGNED WEAPONS
THAT ARE INTENDED TO BE
HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT.
FASCINATING
WORK.

I LOOK
FORWARD TO
SEEING IF YOU ARE
THE DIAMOND IN
THE ROUGH.



AHHHHHHH!

CRACK!
CRACK!
CRACK!

DAMN!

NOW THAT
WE'RE ALL
ON THE SAME
PAGE...



...ALLOW US
TO SEE YOU TO
YOUR NEW
ROOMS.

"TOP-OF-THE-LINE TECHNOLOGY FROM *ARCADE*, *MOJO* AND *MYSTERIO* COMBINED TO GENERATE HORRIFIC AND TRAUMATIZING SCENARIOS.



"ENDLESS TORTURE."



ALL IN A FOOLISH QUEST TO RE-CREATE TONY STARK.

WHY BOTHER WITH THAT WHEN YOU HAVE *ME*?

WHY IS THIS HAPPENING TO US?

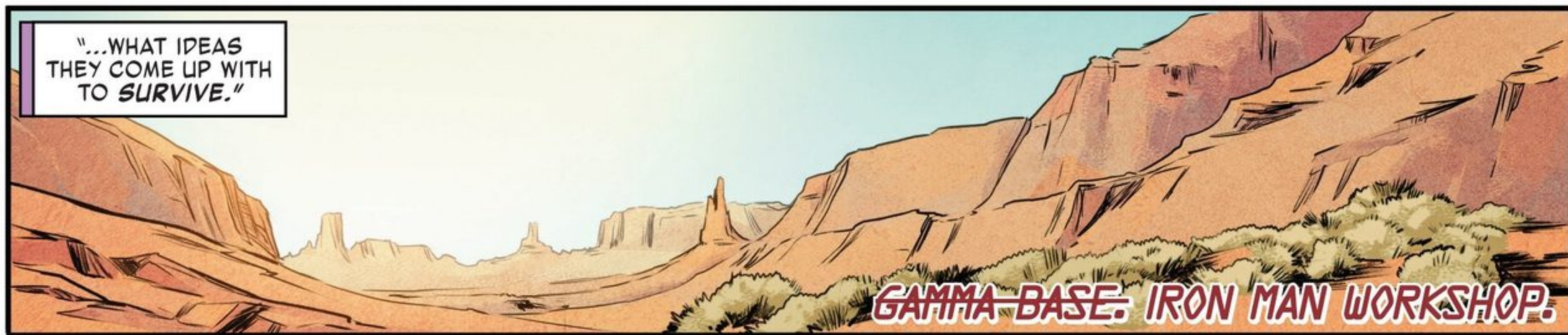


OH, DON'T GET YOUR PANTIES IN A BUNCH, FIXER.

YOU CAN'T DENY THAT THESE EXPERIMENTS HAVE BEEN FRUITFUL.

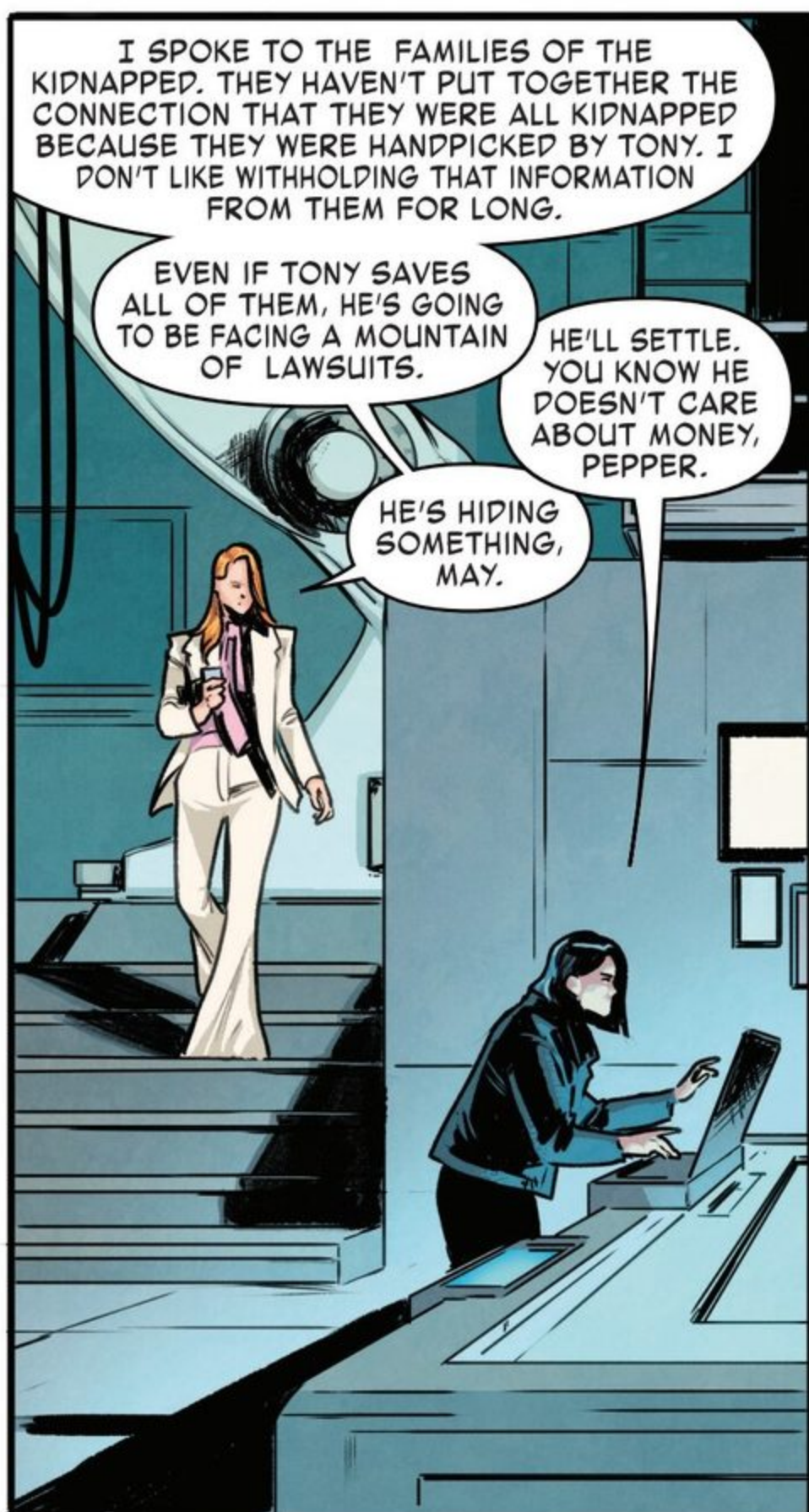
WE ARE ADVANCED *IDEA* MECHANICS AFTER ALL.

WHO KNOWS IF THIS WILL GIVE US OUR VERY OWN TONY STARK TO CONTROL. BUT AT THE VERY LEAST WE CAN SEE...



"...WHAT IDEAS
THEY COME UP WITH
TO *SURVIVE*."

GAMMA-BASE: IRON MAN WORKSHOP.

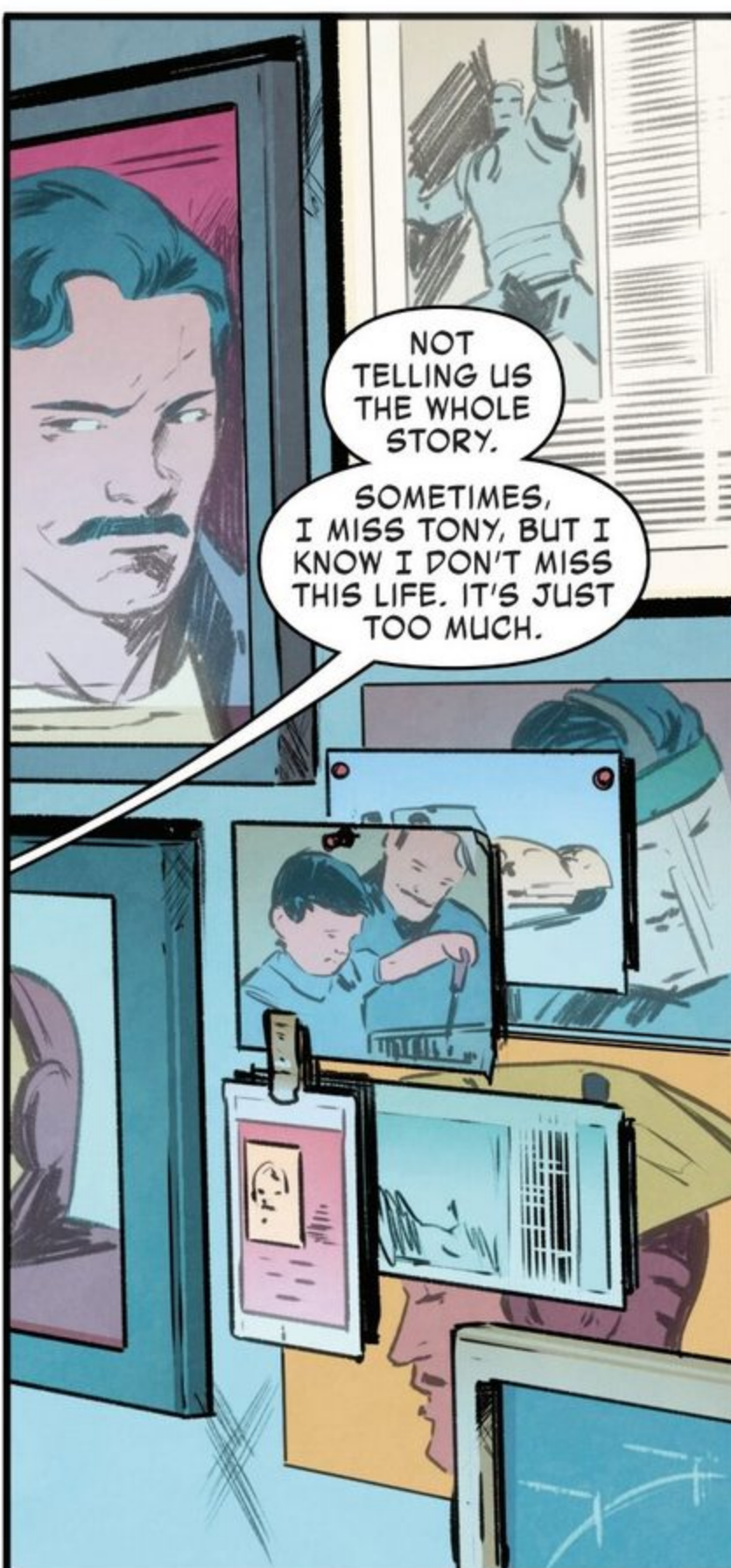


I SPOKE TO THE FAMILIES OF THE KIDNAPPED. THEY HAVEN'T PUT TOGETHER THE CONNECTION THAT THEY WERE ALL KIDNAPPED BECAUSE THEY WERE HANDPICKED BY TONY. I DON'T LIKE WITHHOLDING THAT INFORMATION FROM THEM FOR LONG.

EVEN IF TONY SAVES ALL OF THEM, HE'S GOING TO BE FACING A MOUNTAIN OF LAWSUITS.

HE'LL SETTLE. YOU KNOW HE DOESN'T CARE ABOUT MONEY, PEPPER.

HE'S HIDING SOMETHING, MAY.



NOT TELLING US THE WHOLE STORY.

SOMETIMES, I MISS TONY, BUT I KNOW I DON'T MISS THIS LIFE. IT'S JUST TOO MUCH.



HE ALWAYS DOES THIS. DECIDES THAT ONLY HE CAN DEAL WITH THINGS.

THAT ONLY HE'S SMART ENOUGH TO TACKLE A CHALLENGE.



I'M SORRY, DID I SIGN UP TO BE YOUR COUPLES THERAPIST?



WE'RE NOT A COUPLE.

I. DON'T. CARE.

ANY WORD FROM TONY?

HE'S BEEN TRAVELING.



"HITTING UP
ALL KNOWN A.I.M.
ASSOCIATES AND
PAST HEADQUARTERS
AND LABS."

"HE'S FOUND A FEW
STRAGGLERS, BUT
NONE OF THE
LEADERSHIP OR
HIGH COUNCIL."



"NO SIGN OF
MADAME MASQUE
OR ADAM WARE OR
THE REST OF THE
KIDNAPPED PEOPLE?"

"WHY ARE YOU
NOT OUT IN THE
FIELD HELPING
TO LOOK?"



"BECAUSE I'M MONITORING
THE BACK CHANNELS IN THE
HOPE THAT ONCE WORD
GETS OUT THAT IRON MAN IS
HUNTING A.I.M. DOWN, SOMEONE
WILL PANIC AND LEAD US
TO MADAME MASQUE."

"AND HAS
THAT
WORKED?"

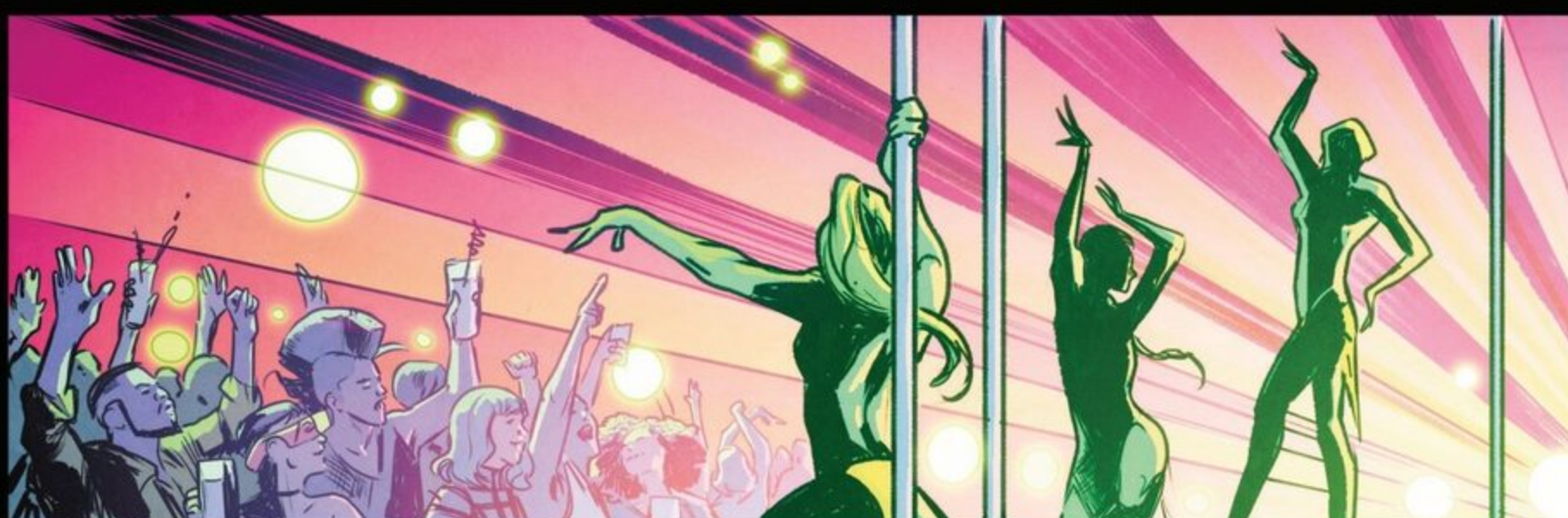


"CLOSE
ENOUGH."

"WHERE
IS TONY
NOW?"

"YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LIKE IT..."

MADRIPOOR.
ISLAND NATION OF CRIME
AND LAWLESSNESS.





TROUBLE?
WITH A
CAPITAL T?

MOI?
NEVER.

I'M LOOKING FOR
SOMEONE, GRIZZLY.
AND MY SOURCES
TELL ME THEY'RE
HERE.

LET ME
HAVE A QUICK
LOOK AROUND AND
THEN I'LL BE
ON MY WAY.



THEY'RE NOT HERE,
STARK, AND NEITHER
ARE YOU.



HOW DO YOU KNOW, GRIZZ?
I DIDN'T EVEN SAY WHO I
WAS LOOKING FOR.

GO
HOME,
TONY...



YOU'VE GOT NO
JURISDICTION HERE,
AVENGER.

UNLESS YOU WANT AN
INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT,
YOU'LL TURN AROUND AND
GO BACK TO FIGHTING
ALIENS OR COSMIC
GODS.

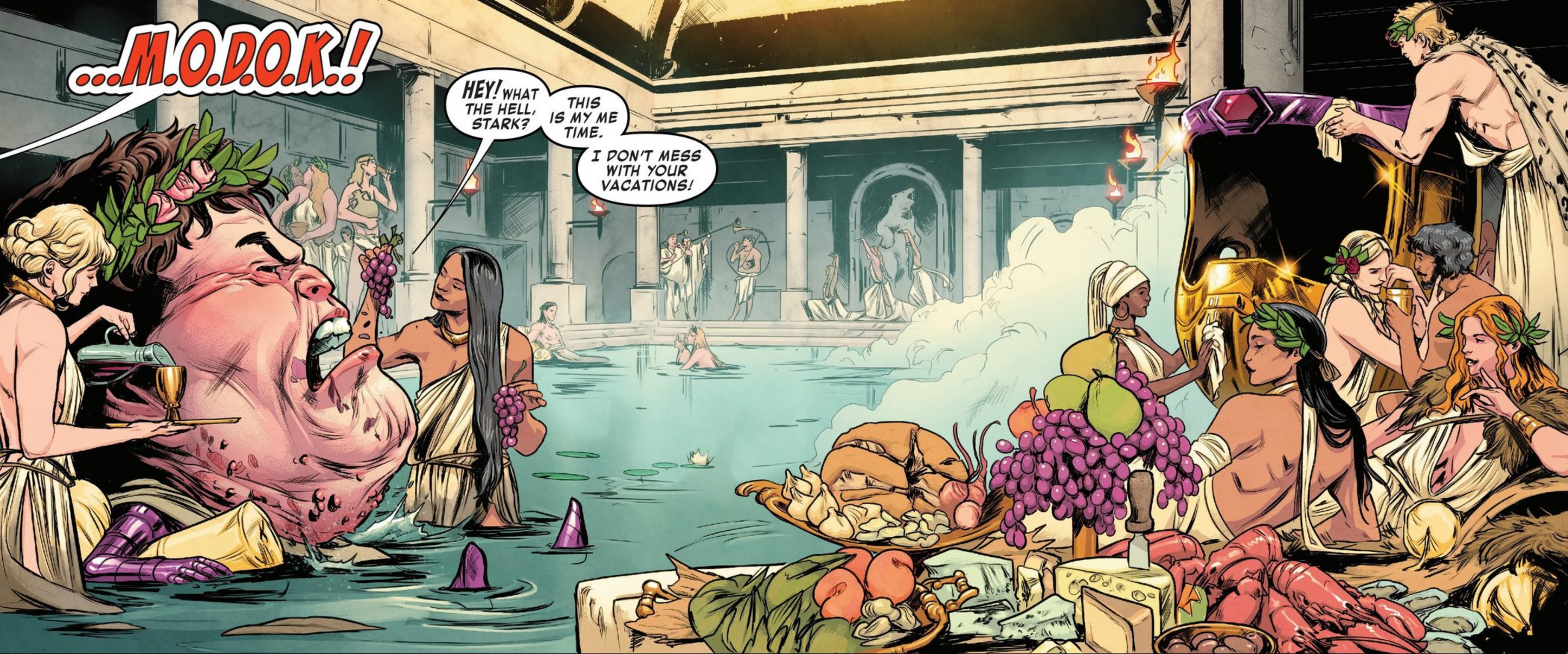
I CAME HERE
UNARMED, *IN
PEACE*, AND YOU
WANT TO BE A
BAD HOST?



WALKING INTO MY
JOINT WITHOUT YOUR
ARMOR WAS A
MISTAKE.

AND I THOUGHT YOU
WERE *SMART* OR
SOMETHING...





...M.O.D.O.K.!!

HEY! WHAT THE HELL, STARK?

THIS IS MY ME TIME.

I DON'T MESS WITH YOUR VACATIONS!



WHERE IS A.I.M.?
WHERE IS MADAME MASQUE?



WHAT AM I, HER BABYSITTER?

AFTER THAT BUSINESS WITH THE SYMBIOTES*, YOUR EX AND I ARE NOT EXACTLY ON SPEAKING TERMS, OKAY?

*SEE ALL-NEW VENOM (2025) FOR ALL THE GOOPY DETAILS! --DK



LET'S JUST TALK AS TONY AND GEORGE, SHALL WE? MAN TO BIG HEAD.

TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW, AND I'LL PRETEND THAT I WAS NEVER HERE. TRUST ME, I NEVER WANTED TO SEE YOU LIKE THIS, AND I'LL SCRUB MY EYEBALLS THE MOMENT I LEAVE.



WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, STARK? THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU. YOU'VE ALWAYS TAKEN RISKS, BUT THIS IS DIFFERENT.

WHITNEY MUST HAVE REALLY BURNED YOU THIS TIME. OR IS IT WORSE THAN THAT?



DID SHE BREAK YOUR HEART AGAIN?



I TRIED TO BE POLITE.

ISSH!

WHERE IS
MADAME
MASQUE?!

I WILL NOT
HESITATE TO
BLAST YOU RIGHT
IN YOUR BIG-
ASS HEAD.

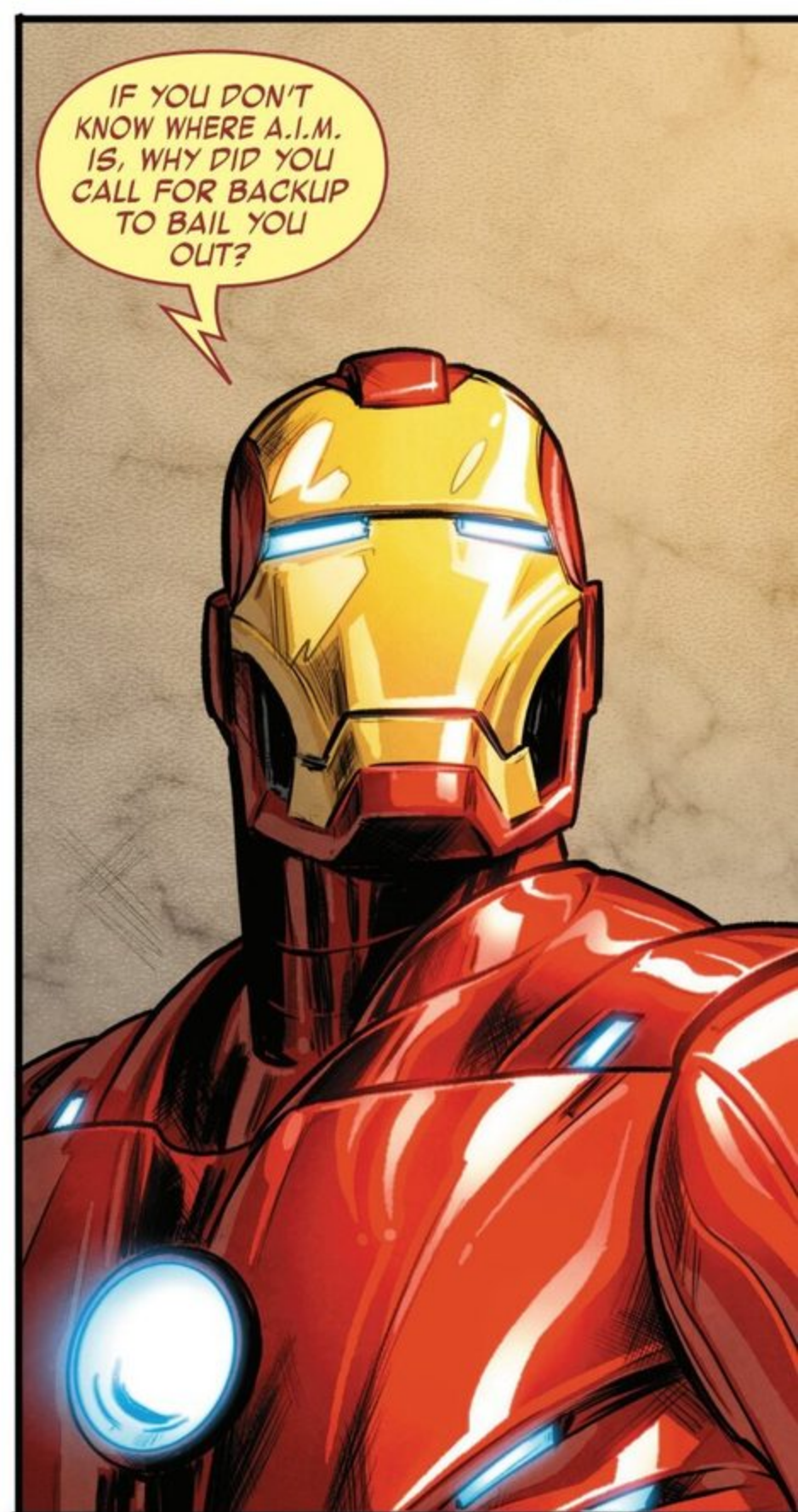
I CAN'T
MISS!

I'M TELLING
YOU...YOU'RE
BARKING UP THE
WRONG TREE,
STARK!

THEN MAYBE
YOU'LL PREFER
MY BITE?!

WAIT,
WAIT, WAIT,
WAIT!

CRASH!





...A.I.M.
IS HERE TO
KILL ME!

YOU GOTTA
SAVE ME,
IRON MAN!

NEXT MONTH...A.I.M. VERSUS
IRON MAN...AND M.O.D.O.K.?!
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printed circuits

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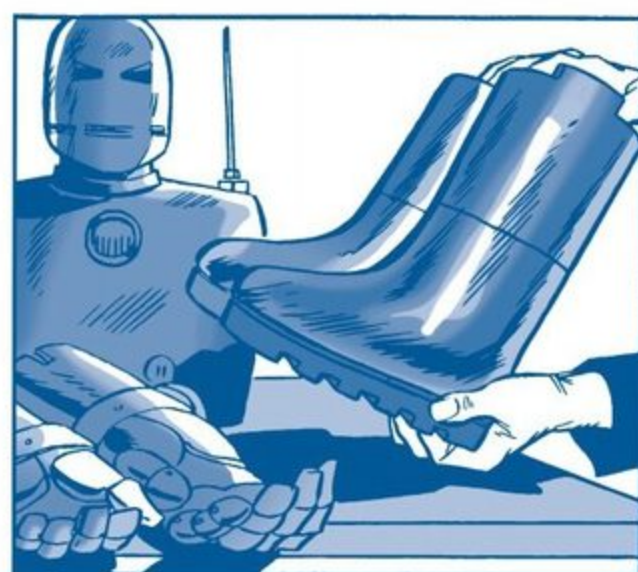
Folks, we are just two weeks away from the release of **IRON MAN #1** (*Legacy #681 if you're nasty*) in comic shops around the world here, in the past, as I write this! Since we don't have any letters from you Shell-Heads just yet, we'll have to figure something else out—oh, I know!

In honor of issue #1, let's look back at a few of the covers from previous IRON MAN #1s!

I hope you enjoy your history lesson with Professor DK. There won't be a test next issue, but do remember to do your homework!

See y'all in thirty!

Stay Safe!
—DK



EMAIL US AT MHEROES@MARVEL.COM
AND MARK YOUR MESSAGES "OKAY TO
PRINT" FOR A CHANCE TO SEE THEM
ANSWERED IN FUTURE ISSUES!

Some of you may or may not know, but IRON MAN, and Tony Stark, first debuted in **TALES OF SUSPENSE #39** waaaaay back in 1962! And it wasn't until six months later, in the summer of '63, that issue #45 introduced the world to the IRON MAN series mainstays of Pepper Potts and Happy Hogan! But if we're talking proper IRON MAN #1s, you'd have to wait until 1968 to get the first true, solo IRON MAN #1!



Now, back in the day, comics didn't relaunch with new #1s that often, so it wasn't until 1996, with the Heroes Reborn initiative, that we got our next IRON MAN #1! Drawn by the now-legendary artist Whilce Portacio!



After a year of our favorite heroes traversing new lives in a pocket dimension, the Fantastic Four and Avengers returned to the world of the 616 (that's the mainline Marvel Universe you know and love!) in the aptly titled Heroes Return relaunches with Kurt Busiek and Sean Chen's IRON MAN #1!



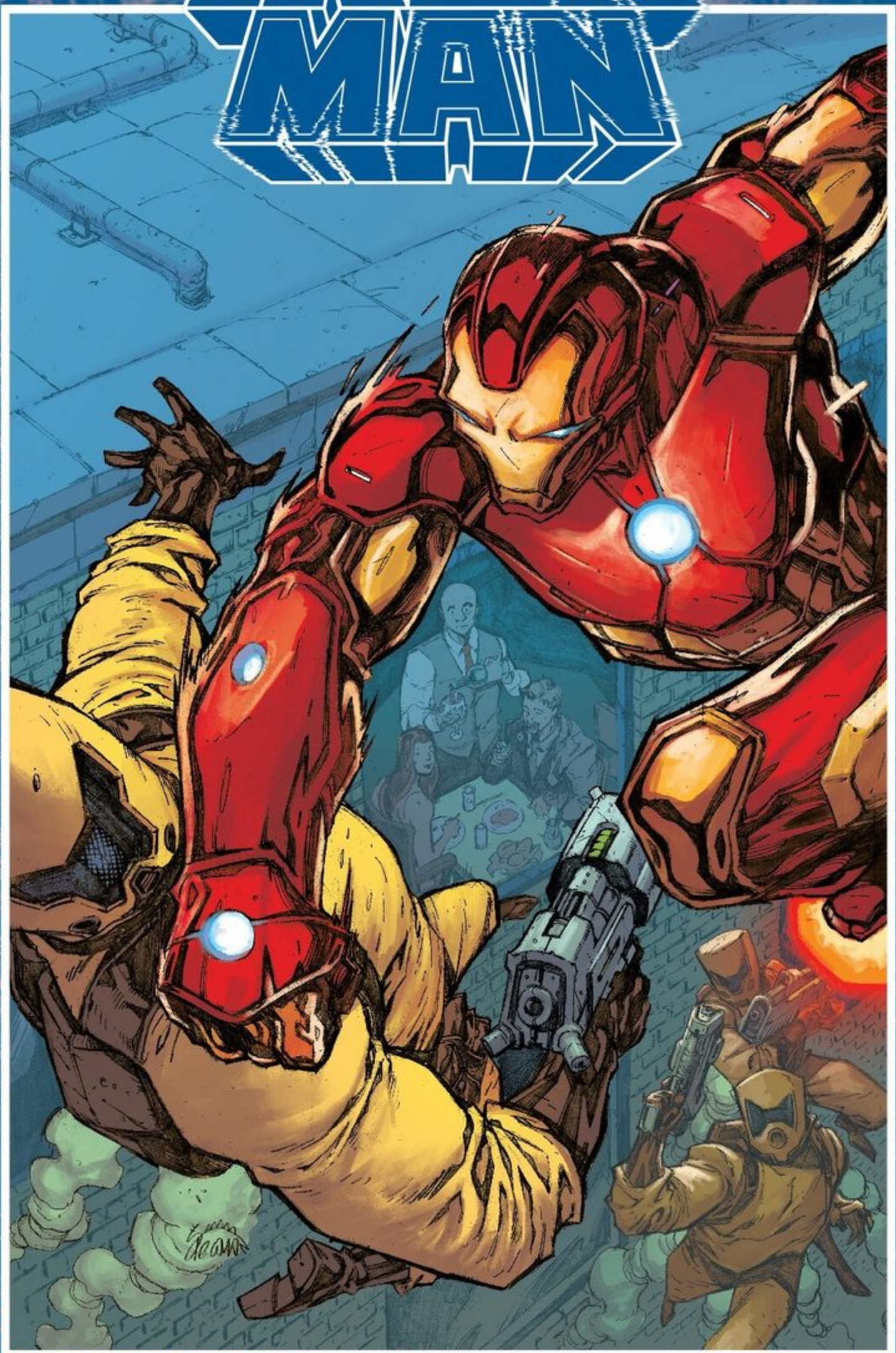
Now, by the time we get to 2008, *Iron Man* is about to hit theaters and take the world by storm, so it was time for a new #1, to pounce on that fervor! This time, it's the beginning of Matt Fraction and Salvador Larroca's seminal run, which was a true roller coaster for Tony like we've never seen before! 🌀



next:

IRON MAN

#3



EXCITED FOR ISSUE 3?

Check out some of our amazing--erm, excuse me--INVINCIBLE variant covers!



CARMEN CARNERO VARIANT BY
CARMEN CARNERO
& NOLAN WOODARD



VILLAINS VARIANT BY
JOSEMARIA CASANOVAS



BENGAL VARIANT BY
BENGAL



SKOTTIE YOUNG
CONNECTING VARIANT BY
SKOTTIE YOUNG